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03/05/2009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
PIETIG

Atty. Docket
DE 020318

Serial: 10/538.580

Group Art Unit: 2817

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Examiner: JONES, STEPHEN E

NON-RECIPROCAL CIRCUIT ELEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
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REPLY BRIEF

Sir:

The following Remarks are in reply to new arguments raised in the Examiner's Answer of 03/19/2008.

REMARKS

In the Examiner's Answer of 03/19/2009, Tanaka is newly-cited in support of the Examiner's contention that thin (i.e., foil) hard ferrite material is sinterable to other layers in a similar manner to the sintered structure taught by Marusawa. Tanaka in fact does not support such a contention, but rather supports Applicant's position that the combination of the teachings of Marusawa and Maruhashi in the manner urged in the rejection would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Tanaka describes construction of a non-reciprocal device by deposition of material on a dielectric substrate 2, or a ferrite substrate (col. 6, lines 30-41). Attention is drawn in particular to col. 4, lines 48-53:

The dielectric substrate 2 shown in FIG. 1 is thus obtained. The ferrite substrate 3 is laminated on the upper surface of the dielectric substrate 2 and is integrated, *by an insulating adhesive*. The permanent-magnet substrate 4 is further laminated on the upper surface of the ferrite substrate 3 and is integrated, *by an insulating adhesive*.

Hence, not only does Tanaka make absolutely no reference to sintering or construction techniques associated with sintering; but Tanaka further teaches the use of a *separate permanent magnet layer* apart from a ferrite layer.

The Answer makes reference to Fig. 6B and col. 7, lines 31-44 of Tanaka. The same observations, however, are equally applicable to this passage: Tanaka makes absolutely no reference to sintering or construction techniques associated with sintering; and Tanaka further teaches the use of a *separate permanent magnet layer* apart from a ferrite layer.

The fact that, despite further diligent search, the Examiner has failed to produce any prior art suggesting that thin (i.e., foil) hard ferrite material is sinterable to other layers in a similar manner to the sintered structure taught by Marusawa is further evidence of patentability of the claimed invention.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Ure', is written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Ure, Reg. 33,089

Dated: 5/19/08